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The President, DR. CHARLES L. DANA, in the Chair.

## EXPERIMENTS ON SUBCONSCIOUS IDEAS.

By Dr. E. W. Scripture.

In this paper the speaker stated that the associations of ideas might be put into two classes. The first was that of associations by meaning (internal associations); for example, "hat—head" and "marriage—funeral." The other class included associations by similarities of form or of sound, such as "goose—loose," or "hat—bat" or "marriage—carriage," which might be termed external associations. To these might be added still another class to include cases where the patient did not associate by external form and only half grasped the meaning, and which might be called indistinct associations. Such associations as "paper—to use," "book—to have" occurred constantly under certain circumstances. Finally, we could conveniently put the last two classes together as "superficial" in contrast to the association by meaning, which might be called "deep."

To get at the subconscious ideas, Dr. Jung, of Zurich, has devised the following method: With a printed list of words before him he explained to the subject or patient that he wished to test his mental activity, and that when a word was called out he was to say quickly what thing he first thought of. The printed list comprised such words as hat, street, good, poor, love, steal, dead, revenge, mother, laugh, cry, blood, money, enemy, hate, sad, tears, despise, etc. As soon as the patient felt at ease and answered readily, the examiner took a stop-watch with split seconds and proceeded to call off the words on the blank, and an accurate record was kept of the time it took for the patient to reply. Many hundreds of tests had shown that when a certain word brought up an idea that was associated with an emotion, it distracted the person so that he did not pay full attention to what he was doing. This often persisted for several associations. The application of the method in the detection of crime might be illustrated by an experience of Dr. Jung's. A man complained to him that a sum of money had been stolen from his office, but that he did not like to suspect his nephew. The boy was induced to undergo the association experiments on the plea that something was being done for his nerves. Words relating to theft, money, drawer, etc., were inserted in the list, with the result that the boy hesitated, stumbled and forgot whenever he came to them. When the experiment was over, the principle of discovering complexes was explained to him. His own record was then shown him, and it was such a convincing document that he could do nothing else but confess.

Dr. B. Onuf said that in one of the cases referred to by Dr. Scripture, where the result of the tests was not entirely satisfactory, it could perhaps be explained by the fact that a displacement of the affect of the complex took place. A patient, for example, had a certain conception with which was connected a certain affect, and that affect was of such an unpleasant kind that he tried to disassociate it from the conception and carried it over to another conception which was closely associated with it, but which was not so repugnant to him.

Dr. L. Pierce Clark said he had applied the method described by Dr. Scripture in a number of cases, one of the most interesting of which was that of a neurasthenic in which he had been unable to get the emotional complex which precipitated the episodes. In applying the test to this patient, he noticed that the words "unhappy," "blood," "child" and "accident" gave a very long interval, and the result was the same in repeated trials. When the patient was asked whether he had ever had an accident to a child attended with the loss of blood he denied it, but his physician subsequently stated that about a year ago this man's wife had become pregnant for the first time, and that she had an abortion produced without the husband's knowledge and much against his wishes. Upon his arrival home one day he was shocked to find her in a condition of collapse, with severe flowing, which nearly cost her life.

## ON SOME PECULIAR HOLLOW NUCLEAR-LIKE STRUCTURES IN THE NEURONE BODIES IN RABIES.

By Dr. Ira Van Gieson.

The description of the newly-found bodies in rabies was of very much less importance than the endeavor to interest neurologists in a seemingly forgotten subject within their field of investigation. The subject of the Negri bodies had received little or no attention from neurologists, chiefly, it would appear, for the reason that these bodies were regarded as protozoa, and consequently foreign to neurological research investigation. As a matter of fact, the Negri bodies were degenerated products of the neurone under the action of a peculiar virus, and scientific study was bound to throw light upon the process of rabies in particular, and upon the life history of the neurone in general.

In his original article (*Zeitschrift für Hygiene und Infect. Krankheit.*, 1903), Negri described rounded or ellipsoidal bodies measuring from one to twenty-five or more microns, lying in or near the substance of the nerve cells in rabies. These bodies contained particles of ordinary chromatin in their interior. These the Italian writer considered protozoa and the parasitic causal transmitting agents of rabies, although any approach to proof or confirmation of this surmise was conspicuously absent in his paper. Besides these typical bodies, which were probably at the present time regarded exclusively as the Negri bodies, there was another form quite distinct and different. This second form of corpuscle lying in or on the neurone bodies in rabies differed from the preceding in that they contained no internal chromatin particles and appeared quite homogeneous without exhibiting any internal differentiated structure. Thus there were two sets of these bodies appearing on or in the neurone bodies in rabies, and the speaker advised their differentiation by characterizing the first type as the nucleated and the second as the non-nucleated bodies.

Negri described the nucleated forms quite thoroughly, but the non-nucleated forms he barely recognized and evidently had a confused notion of their individuality. He failed to identify them signally, and to distin-